

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Masamoto TANABIKI et al. Confirmation No. : 8628  
Appl. No. : 10/598,661 (U.S. National Examiner: Edwyn Labaze  
Stage of PCT/JP2006/300146)  
I.A. Filed : January 10, 2006 Group Art Unit : 2887  
For : SECURE DEVICE AND SYSTEM FOR ISSUING IC CARDS

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

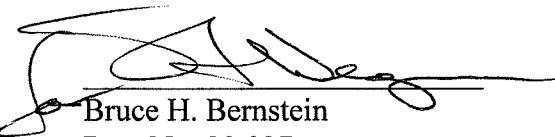
Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 14, 2008 and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication of allowability, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the combination of features recited therein.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Masamoto TANABIKI et al.



Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

April 2, 2008  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, Virginia 20191  
(703) 716-1191

Steven Wegman  
Reg. No. 31,438